



The Irish Apostolate  
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# The Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

There is currently a growing interest in Ireland regarding the Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Movement. Yet people are curious as to what this movement is all about and how it is different or similar to other Marian devotions. Alongside seeking to understand The Flame of Love Movement, entirely proper questions emerge regarding its approval status in the Church.

This brief Introduction Pack was created to briefly explain the Flame of Love Movement and allay concerns regarding its approval status within the Church.

The following pages include:

1. Renew *All Things In Grace* (Information Sheet)
2. Excerpts from the *Official Decree Pronouncement of Péter Cardinal Erdő* in the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Kispet (June 6, 2009) at the Tenth National Conference of The Flame of Love (of Hungary).
3. Copy of the *Apostolic Blessing by Pope Francis* (2013)

Thank you for taking the time to read this document and prayerfully consider The Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Please direct any questions regarding the authenticity of the Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Movement in Ireland to its National Director, Kielty Oberlin, PhD or Secretary, Geraldine Halton at [info@flameoflove.ie](mailto:info@flameoflove.ie)

Thank you for considering this great gift of grace for your diocese.

The Irish Leadership Team:

Kielty Oberlin, *National Director*, Geraldine Halton, *Secretary*, Joe Sheehan, *Treasurer*, Frances Devaney, *Spokesperson*, Eileen Bolton, *Spokesperson*



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# 1. Renew All Things In Grace

By The Flame of Love of The Immaculate Heart of Mary

## The Movement of Grace

One of the great challenges we have when presenting the Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary is the assumption it is another of many Marian devotions or about the words of another mystic; but, the Flame of Love is not about the messenger nor the messages; it is all about Grace. In fact, we refer to the Flame of Love as the Movement of Grace built upon the Movement of Mercy – the two great Movements given to the Church at this time because what the world needs most is Mercy and Grace.

This is why the Flame of Love is for everyone and not just those in the apostolate of the Flame of Love - because *grace* is for everyone. The purpose of the Flame of Love is not to compete with other ministries, but to *strengthen* every ministry in the Church, every person in the Church, every family in the Church, by a renewed commitment to a life of Grace – to bring every person into such deep intimacy and union with Jesus by the effect of Grace that the influence of Satan on our families, communities, country, Church, and world is driven out and souls are saved. In the vocabulary of the Flame of Love, this is called *blinding Satan*, i.e., so that he loses his influence over souls.

In giving the Flame of Love to the Church on April 13, 1962 through Elizabeth Kindelmann, a widowed mother of six and Secular Carmelite in Communist Hungary, Mary said this would be *the greatest outpouring of graces since the Word was made flesh*. She told us that The Flame of Love of her Immaculate Heart is not a what but a who; Jesus himself. It is all about Jesus; it has always been about Jesus and it will always be about Jesus. She also said this would be her greatest miracle ever – greater than Fatima or Lourdes because it would not be a miracle in one place with a great sanctuary built in remembrance, but the miracle of making every family a sanctuary – a holy place filled with Jesus by the effect of Grace and that, when the world sees Jesus fully present in countless lives around the world, it will finally take notice. Jesus, The Flame of Love, vibrantly alive in families by grace *is* the miracle.



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## Church Approval

The Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Movement is a Private Association of the Faithful but, more importantly, it has been granted Juridic Personality per Canon 322 by His Eminence, Péter Cardinal Erdő, Primate of Hungary, Archbishop of Esztergom-Budapest, thus providing not only his acceptance but his approval of the statutes of the Movement on 6th June 2009.

Cardinal Erdő also granted an **imprimatur** to the Hungarian critical edition of the Spiritual Diary of Elizabeth Kindelmann.

The redacted English version of the Diary (which is used in Ireland) was also granted an imprimatur by His Excellency, The Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput.

The Movement has also received an **Apostolic Blessing from Pope Francis on the 19th June 2013.**

(Copies of His Holiness, Pope Francis', letter of apostolic blessing and excerpts from His Eminence Péter Cardinal Erdő's Official Decree Pronouncement on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2009 are included at the close of this information packet.)

### ***Why has it taken so long for the Movement to Gain Recognition Throughout the World?***

It was impossible to properly investigate the Flame of Love in Hungary under Communism, however, after its collapse in Eastern Europe, the investigation began. After a multi-year examination, His Eminence Péter Cardinal Erdő, Primate of Hungary and Archbishop of Esztergom-Budapest, approved the text of Elizabeth's Spiritual Diary and the Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Movement and established it as a *Private Association of the Faithful with Juridic Personality* on June 6, 2009.

*Excerpt: With these words, I establish in the Archdiocese of Esztergom-Budapest the 'Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Movement', as an ecclesial association of the faithful in Christ. It is a private association enjoying a juridical personality. At the same time, I also approve for this Archdiocese the Statutes of this Association accepted in San Paulo, Brazil, on*



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*August 15, 2008 and as approved in the Archdiocese of Hermosillo, Mexico,  
on December 11, 2008. Budapest, Palm Sunday, 2009,*

With my blessings as pastor,

Péter Erdő, Cardinal, Primate and Archbishop

## The Flame of Love Movement in Ireland

Since that time, the Movement has exploded around the world bringing a powerful force of renewal. It is, however, just beginning in Ireland. The Irish Apostolate of the Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary held its first All-Ireland, National Conference on 7 May 2022 introducing its First National Director, Kielty Oberlin, appointed by the Movement's International Coordinator, Győző Kindelmann (grandson of Elizabeth Kindelmann). This was the Movement's official launch, but there is still much work to be done in Ireland responding to Our Lady's call to *spread the effect of grace throughout all of humanity.*

## Praying and Living the Gospel

The Flame of Love helps every member of the Church to understand the Gospel in a simple and tangible way. It makes the profound theology of salvation accessible to everyone in both prayer and practice.

There is not much new in the Flame of Love. Instead, Mary calls us back to all the great practices of grace we have always had but have neglected, e.g., prayer, regular fasting, Mass, Adoration, vigil prayer, continual repentance, a complete dedication to the salvation of souls, sacrifices for others, and embracing our sufferings in love for the salvation of others. In short, she calls us to live the life of Grace so completely conformed to the love and life of Jesus by the effect of Grace that even our everyday chores destroy the influence of evil.

There are only three devotional elements proper to the Flame of Love.

### 1. Meditating Upon the Five Wounds of Jesus



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Mary asked us to offer ourselves to the Heavenly Father through the wounds of Jesus and to meditate upon His wounds. This roots us in the mercy of the God who is Love which is the wellspring of all grace and salvation.

## 2. The Unity Prayer

Jesus Himself gave the Prayer of Union with Jesus saying it expresses His deepest desires toward us:

*My Adorable Jesus,*  
May our feet journey together,  
May our hands gather in unity,  
May our hearts beat in unison,  
May our souls be in harmony,  
May our thoughts be as One,  
May our ears listen  
to the silence  
together,  
May our glances profoundly penetrate each other,  
May our lips pray together to gain mercy from the Eternal Father.  
Amen.

Jesus elsewhere explains that our feet must journey together to Calvary; our hands must work together to gather souls, and that His human heart beats in rhythm with His divinity so when our hearts beat with His heart, we partake of His divinity. This prayer is not just the heart of the Flame of Love; it is the heart of Christianity – the end goal of salvation – complete union with Jesus. It is not simply us inviting Jesus into our lives, but Jesus inviting us into His.

## 3. The Flame of Love Hail Mary

Our Blessed Mother asked us to continually implore her to spread the effect of grace of her Flame of Love (Jesus Himself) over all humanity. It was so important to her



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that she created a new Hail Mary with great graces attached – the Flame of Love Hail Mary which concludes, “Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners; *spread the effect of grace of your Flame of Love over all of humanity*, now and at the hour of our death.” The effect of grace is the means to the end, viz., Unity with Jesus (expressed via the Unity Prayer).

### **Connecting the Dots...**

The prayers outline the Gospel. God, in His Mercy, grants His Grace whose effect makes us one with Jesus and, thus, partake of the Divine Nature to think, feel, and act as God does. When Jesus is present in us by grace, Satan’s influence is broken and souls are saved – it’s the Gospel! We pray the Gospel.

Our prayers then lead to a way of life which is completely poured out for others in union with Jesus as He continues to pour out His life for the salvation of souls. We live the Gospel.

This is what the Flame of Love does in a parish and a diocese. It makes the gospel come alive; it unleashes the power of grace. It renews the Church, our families, and our communities. This is the great Grace of the Flame of Love. Please welcome the Flame of Love into your diocese of parish communities.

### **In Conclusion, The Flame of Love is the Movement of Grace**

The statutes of the Movement affirm our support of and obedience to the Magisterium of the Church. The purpose of the Flame of Love is to break Satan’s influence on our families and communities by the great outpouring of graces leading us to deep union with Jesus, strengthening of our families through this great outpouring of graces, and opening the door to evangelisation by the light of grace shining from our parishioners who embrace this life of grace.

Please direct any questions regarding the authenticity of the Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Movement in Ireland to its National Director, Kielty Oberlin, PhD or Secretary, Geraldine Halton at [info@flameoflove.ie](mailto:info@flameoflove.ie)

Thank you for considering this great gift of grace from Our Blessed Mother for your parish, diocese and families.



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With prayers and blessings and on behalf of the Irish Apostolate of the Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Movement in Ireland.

Kielty Oberlin, *National Director, Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Movement, Ireland.* *Kielty*

## **2. The Following is the Pronouncement of Péter Cardinal Erdö in the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Kispet (June 6, 2009) at the Tenth National Conference of The Flame of Love (of Hungary)**

Cardinal: “Praised be Jesus Christ”

Faithful: “Let Him be eternally praised. Amen!”

“Thank you very much for the kind words of introduction given by your pastor and by the leaders of the ‘Flame of Love Movement’. Certainly the Holy Spirit will work in the Church until the end of time. Frequently, the entire community of the Church accepts inspirations that originally came forth from the heart of a Christian person who was completely dedicated and deeply believing. After examining these impulses, the successors of the apostles eventually welcome them as gifts of God for the whole Church

For many centuries, the Church institution and charismas were seen as two distinct realities, as if opposed to each other. On the contrary, the Church’s history shows that truly authentic charismas (those special Divine Gifts given to believing persons for the benefit of the Church) and the institutional structure established by Christ’s Will, are in strict correlation with each other.

The most beautiful example of this is the history of religious orders. The great founder of an order is a truly charismatic person, as was St. Francis and St. Ignatius of Loyola. They were an extraordinary phenomenon in their own age. The Church rejoices so much in the value of their spirituality and of that form of life that it represents, that the Church shouts to the founder, ‘Do not go away.’ We want this form of life to remain and this charisma to last in the Church. In this way, the religious orders and their charisma become part of the institutional Church.

I will say even more. Christ Himself, His person and His mission, travels along the road of Church history. Jesus said to His disciples, “As the Father sends Me, so I also send you.” (Jn 20:21) Therefore, the Church on earth, as a visible community, carries on the mission of Christ. It follows that the Church is not merely an external human organization. Rather, she lives within the world. Also, the Church is not just some invisible, mysterious reality of grace. The same Church is both an invisible reality and a visible society. These are not two distinct things. Sometimes human frailty and human history produce an obstacle. However, at a given moment of history, there appears in the Church something beautiful, a new possibility for the Church. I believe that this is true of the “Flame of Love Movement”.

A believing woman, Elizabeth, prays and hears voices in her soul. She perceives that these wonderful voices come from the Virgin Mary. No one asks – since this is not important – what is the nature of the experiences that she describes in her Spiritual Diary. This is not the task which the Church has



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undertaken in these years of judgement. It has not tried to discern some special happening or supernatural phenomenon. What we have deeply and seriously studied is the content of the message.

While we could not yet officially deal with this matter in Hungary, this spirituality spread to many countries throughout the world and has produced positive fruits. Before making this decision in Budapest, we have spoken with bishops, priests and people from other countries. We have also talked with pastors of souls in our own country. They have testified that the Flame of Love produces fruits in the lives of individual persons and of communities. These testimonies were very positive and we know that a good tree produces good fruits.

After this, we established a commission. Various priests examined the written documents, including the Spiritual Diary itself, the documentation from foundations outside of Hungary and the recognitions that local bishops in many parts of the world (from Brazil to Mexico) have given to this Movement as a private association of the faithful. Just a short time ago, this investigation was finished. As a conclusion, our Church recognizes as authentic, in accord with the Catholic faith, all of the material contained in the Spiritual Diary. Also, this archdiocese considers that the activity, life and rule of this community is in accord with all that characterizes movements of spirituality and authentic communities of the Catholic Church.

At this point, the entire Church receives this charisma as a gift from God. Instead of forgetting about this gift, we ought to place it on the lampstand so that it lights up everything in the house. Having already seen the effects of grace poured out in many other countries, we pray that this charisma shine upon the entire country of Hungary. For this reason, I have asked the senior director of the Archbishop's office to read this decree."

### Excerpts from the official Decree (read by Canon Laszlo Süllej)

Our Lady of Hungary, pray for us!

With these words, I establish in the Archdiocese of Esztergom-Budapest the 'Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Movement', as an ecclesial association of the faithful in Christ. It is a private association enjoying a juridical personality.

At the same time, I also approve for this Archdiocese the Statutes of this Association accepted in San Paulo, Brazil, on August 15, 2008 and as approved in the Archdiocese of Hermosillo, Mexico, on December 11, 2008.

I ask God to give His abundant blessings for the life and activities of this Association: May your activities serve the spiritual renewal of our homeland!

Budapest, Palm Sunday, 2009 With my blessings as pastor,

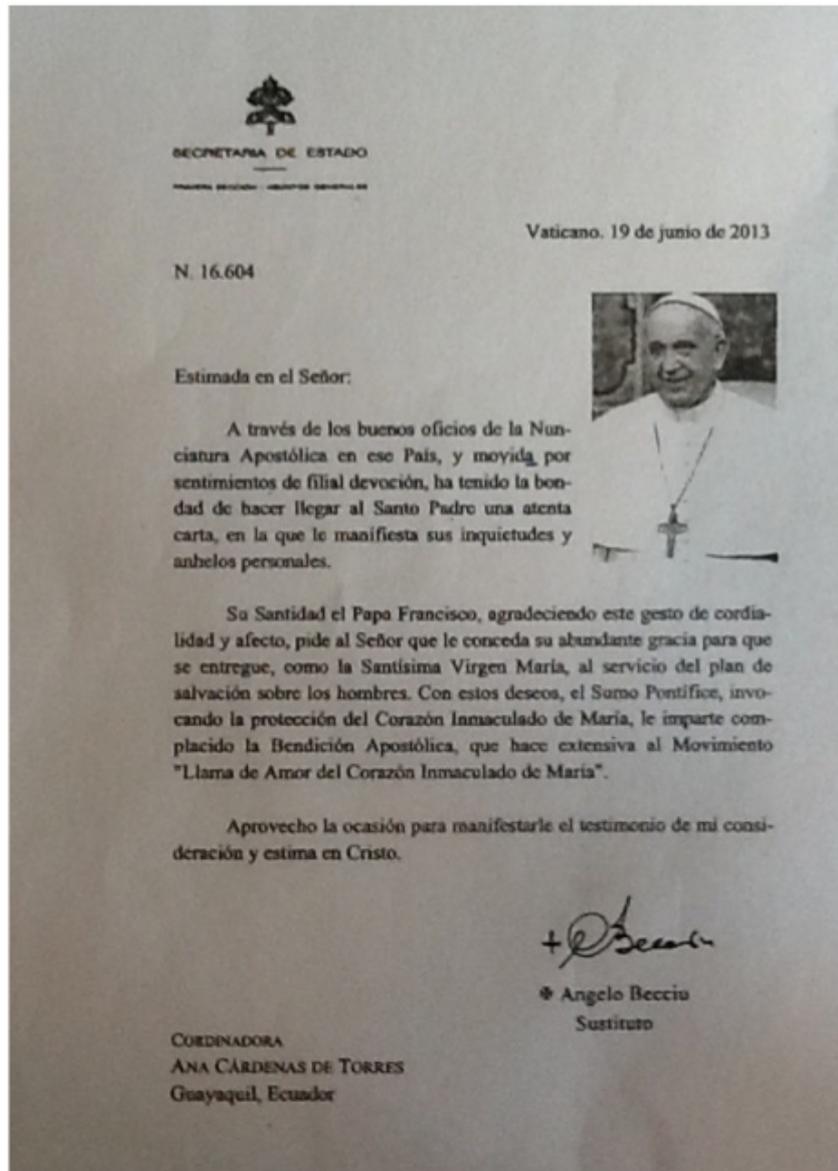
Péter Erdő, Cardinal, Primate and Archbishop

### **3. The Following is the Official Letter from the Office of the Secretary of State at the Vatican for the Blessing of Pope Francis on the Movement of The Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary on 19 June 2013**



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N.16.604

English translation of letter from the office of the Secretary of State at the Vatican for the Blessing of Pope Francis on the Movement of the Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

June 19, 2013

Ana Cardenas DeTorres  
Coordinator of the Flame of Love  
Guayaquil, Ecuador

Dear esteemed one in the Lord:

Moved by sentiments of filial devotion, the Apostolic Nunciature of Ecuador has used its services to send to the Holy Father your kind letter, which reveals your personal desires and hopes.

His Holiness, Pope Francis, is grateful for this gesture of kindness and affection, and asks the Lord to grant you His abundant Grace through the Blessed Virgin Mary, to serve the plan of salvation for mankind. With these wishes, His Holiness, invoking the protection of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, is pleased to impart the Apostolic Blessing, which He extends to the Movement "Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary".

I take this opportunity to express the testimony of my consideration and esteem in Christ.

Angelo Becciu

Archbishop, Substitute for General Affairs,  
Secretary of State, Vatican